

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KATE BURKE AND RUTH HAZLETON - 'DECLARATION'



KATE BURKE & RUTH HAZLETON ARE BACK WITH A NEW ALBUM! ~ 'DECLARATION'

Kate Burke and Ruth Hazleton are two of Australia's most respected and renowned folk musicians. Their vocal harmonies, exceptional musicianship and unique interpretations of traditional song have won them national and international acclaim over the years.

Since performing together for the first time in 1998, Kate & Ruth have toured Australia and internationally, recorded five studio albums, played and recorded with such luminaries as Andy Irvine and Bruce Molsky. They've picked up awards (National Film & Sound Archive Award for Best Folk Album, Lis Johnston Award for Vocal Excellence), and have been described by *The Australian* as "Why folk music is cool again".

Their acclaimed new album *Declaration* heralds a new era for the duo as they collaborate with musician, engineer and producer Luke Plumb (Shooglenifty), to explore the light and darkness of our world through the lens of folksong. The album was recorded at various locations around Melbourne and vocals completed at **Sing Sing Recording Studios**. Final mix and master was undertaken by world renowned engineer Calum Malcolm (Scotland), who has worked with some of the industry's finest; Mark Knopfler, Karine Polwart, Bellowhead, Lau, Shooglenifty, Aly Bain and Stephane Grappelli.

Over a year in production, *Declaration* showcases a different side of *Kate and Ruth*, both individually and as a duo:

Declaration is an album full of atmosphere and shifting gears - from tales of strong women, hardships, wistful vignettes, infidelity, true love, spirituality and the complexity of the world in which we live. Traditional songs, contemporary songs and self-penned works are interpreted through intricate and sometimes sparse guitar and banjo arrangements (occasionally accompanied by Luke Plumb on mandolin and bouzouki), which serve to highlight their trademark brilliant vocals.

Kate and Ruth return from a number of years away from performance after taking time off to raise families - Ruth in Melbourne and Kate in Candelo in the Bega Valley, NSW.

"Duo perfection from Australia" ~ FRoots, UK

A bold and stunning fifth album from this renowned Australian duo, featuring their trademark vocal harmonies and intricate arrangements. Produced by Luke Plumb, 'Declaration' takes a contemporary approach to traditional music and lifts it to a whole new level.

***"Boy is it beautiful!
Really gorgeous"***

- The Inside Sleeve, ABC Radio National

"There's a lot of bold material on the album in terms of both subject matter and treatment... I don't think the album could ever be accused of being safe, of retreading familiar ground or of gently easing back into the saddle and that was one of our conclusions in the preparation stage - this had to be a real step further from the previous albums".

- Luke Plumb, (Producer)

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